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Darlaston Urban District Council



REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1963

J. K. HEAGNEY, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

T. H. MEREDITH, M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector

REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1963,

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Darlaston.
James Bridge 2391.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
DARLASTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1963, with which is incorporated that of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The estimated mid-year population of 21,980 indicated a small increase of 60 on the previous year, the Natural Increase (excess of births over deaths) being 92. The number of births was 324, a slight decrease on the total for the previous year, thereby maintaining a low birth rate trend which is singularly at variance with the progressively rising national rate. Deaths at 232 were almost identical with the figure for 1962. 7 of these deaths occurred in the first year of life, of which 4 survived less than a month, and three of these died less than a week after birth.

The total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 267, a large increase on the previous year, due almost entirely to Measles. For the eleventh successive year Darlaston was free from any cases of Diphtheria, and there were no cases of Poliomyelitis reported. Taking everything into account it can be stated that the health of the general population was satisfactory on the whole.

Throughout 1963 a very high standard of meat inspection was again maintained by the constant and untiring efforts of the Public Health Inspectors.

In conclusion I wish, in thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continuing interest in the work of the Department throughout the year, also the Chief Officers of other Departments for their co-operation and help, to pay tribute to Dr. Heagney who was with the Department for more than seven years, and upon whose work during 1963 this report is entirely based. He will be particularly remembered for the vigorous and successful way in which he dealt with the threat of Smallpox infection in the town in 1962.

Last and by no means least, thanks are accorded to the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Meredith, and all members of the Health Department for their loyalty at all times and their assistance in the preparation of this report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H.A.H. Summers.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F.

Medical Officer of Health J.K.Heagney, M.B.,B.Ch.,D.T.H.
(Resigned 14th November 1963).

Chief Public Health Inspector T.H.Meredith, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector I.Thompson, M.A.P.H.I.

District Public Health Inspectors J.Wood, M.A.P.H.I.
(Resigned 27th November 1963.)

W.Reason, M.A.P.H.I.
(Resigned 17th May 1963.)

B.T.Robertson - 30th September 1963.

Housing Visitor Mrs H. Ebbens.

Senior Clerk Mrs F. Sharpe.

Junior Clerk Mrs B. Cox (Resigned 23rd January 1963).
Miss J. Pinson - 11th February 1963.

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I am indebted to Mr. Green, Manager of the Darlaston Branch of the Ministry of Labour for the following report:-

The level of employment in Darlaston during 1963 had some fluctuations. At the beginning of the year there was short time working in the bolt and nut industry, and the severe weather had also resulted in many workers in the building trade being temporarily suspended from employment. This caused a large increase in the unemployed register and a total of 420 workers were registered as unemployed in January 1963. These conditions continued until the beginning of March when improved weather conditions enabled the building industry to resume normal working. By June the bolt and nut industry had also recovered and short time working ceased.

The unemployed register fell to about 150 and it remained around that figure for the remainder of the year. The percentage of unemployment in Darlaston, however, was well below the National figure at all times during the year, and in view of the prevailing conditions the employment position in Darlaston was well maintained.

The demand for labour towards the end of 1963 increased and during the year 418 workers were placed in employment.

The number of insured workers employed in the area was 19,589, a decrease of 997 on the figure for 1962.

Industrial relations between employers and employees continued to be good with no serious industrial disputes taking place.

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SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Area in Acres	1,535.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population for mid-1963	21,980.
Comperability factor for births	0.97
Comperability factor for deaths	1.44
Number of inhabited houses according to the rate books (as at 1st April 1963) .	6,403.
Total rateable value (as at 1st April 1963)	£904,760.
Industrial rateable value (as at 1st April 1963)	£436,193.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate in respect of year ended 31st March 1963	£1,105:3s:3d.

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Male	Female	Total	Rate/1000 Population	Adjusted Rate/ 1000 Population (x 0.97)	Rate for England and Wales / 1000 resident Population.
Legitimate	152.	159.	311.			
Illegitimate	7	6	13			
Totals:-	159.	165.	324.	14.7	14.3	18.2

Illegitimate Live Births, as percentage of Total Births (by sexes).

Male.	Female.	Total.
4.8%	3.7%	4.0%

STILL BIRTHS:

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate/1000 Live and Still Births.	Rate / 1000 Live & Still Births for England & Wales.
Legitimate	5.	3.	8.		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
TOTALS:-	5.	3.	8.	24.1	17.3

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS:

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	157.	162.	319.
Illegitimate	7	6	13.
Totals:-	164.	168.	332.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate/1000 Live Births.	Rate / 1000 Legitimate Live Births.	Rate / 1000 Illegitimate Live Births.	Rate / 1000 Live Births England & Wales.
Legitimate	1.	6.	7.				
Illegitimate	-	-	-	21.6	22.5	0.0	21.1
Totals:-	1.	6.	7.				

NEONATAL MORTALITY (Deaths under 4 weeks of age).

	Male	Female	Total	Rate/1000 Live Births	Rate/1000 Live Births England & Wales.
Legitimate	1.	3.	4.		
Illegitimate	-	-	-	12.3	14.2
Totals:-	1.	3.	4.		

EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY (Deaths under 1 week of age).

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate/1000 Live Births.
Legitimate	1.	2.	3.	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	9.2
Totals:-	1.	2.	3.	

PERINATAL MORTALITY (Combined Still Births and Deaths under 1 week of age).

	Total.	Rate / 1000 Live & Still Births.	Rate / 1000 Live & Still Births England & Wales.
	11.	33.1	29.3

MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of women during or in consequence of Pregnancy, Childbirth, or Abortion).

Total.	Rate / 1000 Live and still Births.	Rate / 1000 Live & Still Births England & Wales.
nil.	0.0	0.27

DEATHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate / 1000: Resident Population.	Adjusted Death Rate (by 1.44).	Death Rate England and Wales.
All causes:-	133.	99.	232.	10.5	15.1	12.2

CAUSES OF DEATH ACCORDING TO REGISTRAR
GENERAL'S RETURN.

DISEASES.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	-	1.
Tuberculosis Other Organs	-	-	-
Syphilis	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	2.
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach.	6	3	9.
Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus.	8	3	11.
Malignant Neoplasm Breast.	-	5	5.
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus.	-	1	1.
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	13	8	21.
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	12	18	30.
Coronary Disease Angina	16	10	26.
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	3	4.
Other Heart Disease	17	20	37.
Other Circulatory Disease	3	1	4.
Influenza	1	-	1.
Pneumonia	11	6	17.
Bronchitis	18	3	21.
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1.
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	1	5
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea	-	1	1.
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1.
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	1	1.
Congenital Malformations	2	1	3.
Other Defined and Ill Defined Diseases	8	6	14.
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	1	6.
All Other Accidents	3	4	7.
Suicide	2	1	3.
TOTAL ALL CAUSES :-	133.	99.	232.

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS FROM CANCER, 1963.

A G E .														
	20 - 24.		25 - 34.		35 - 44.		45 - 54.		55 - 64.		65 - 74.		75 & up	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Cancer of Stomach.							3.	1.	2.	1.	1.	1.		
Cancer of Lungs and Bronchus.									5.	1.	3.	2.		
Cancer of Breast.						1.				2.		2.		
Cancer of Uterus.										1.				
Cancer of other sites.						1.	3.	3.	3.		5.	2.	4.	

SECTION B.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

DIPHTHERIA:

It is very satisfactory to be able to report that the town has been free from diphtheria for 11 years in succession, but this is no reason for discontinuing protective immunisation of infants against this disease.

SCARLET FEVER:

Thirteen cases were reported during the year. The disease was mild and recovery uneventful.

DYSENTERY:

Nine cases were reported during 1963.

WHOOING COUGH:

42 cases were reported, 19 boys, 23 girls, and 17 of the cases were under 5 years of age. This disease is still a problem, the after effects of which can be serious, and parents would be well advised to see that the children are protected by immunisation.

MEASLES:

200 cases were reported compared with 8 cases in 1962. The disease was generally mild.

PNEUMONIA:

Three cases were notified in older people.

TUBERCULOSIS:

Eight cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and two cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis, were notified during the year, a substantial reduction on the figures for 1962.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA:

No cases notified during the year.

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS:

No cases notified during the year.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.			Total.	Non - Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
	A G E S.				
	Under 24.	25 to 54.	55 and over.		
1945.	11.	6.	2.	19.	2.
1946	9.	4.	2.	15.	1.
1947.	6.	2.	4.	12.	3.
1948.	10.	6.	7.	23	2.
1949.	5.	7.	4.	16.	-
1950.	-	4.	4.	8.	-
1951.	1.	5.	1.	7.	4.
1952.	2.	1.	-	3.	1.
1953.	-	5.	1.	6.	-
1954.	1.	2.	5.	8.	3.
1955.	1.	1.	2.	4.	-
1956.	-	1.	4.	5.	-
1957.	-	2.	4.	6.	-
1958.	-	1.	2.	3.	-
1959.	-	2.	1.	3.	-
1960.	-	1.	2.	3.	-
1961.	-	1.	-	1	-
1962.	-	1.	-	1.	-
1963.	-	-	1.	1.	-

NUMBER OF CASES OF COMMON INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED SINCE 1945.

Year.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Measles	Whooping Cough.	Pneumonia.	Pulmonary tuberculosis.	Non-pulmonary tuberculosis.
1945.	21	34	127	52	18	30	3.
1946.	17	21	7	18	12	28	2.
1947.	17	55	311	51	16	30	3.
1948.	6.	53	169.	29	10.	36	2
1949.	2	39	133	25	10	23	-
1950.	-	14.	78.	44.	13.	18.	2.
1951.	2.	15.	174.	74.	9.	30.	3.
1952.	-	33	145.	41.	16.	28.	3.
1953.	1.	28	342	89	27	36	1
1954.	-	23.	9.	138.	15.	25	3
1955	-	13.	355	30	10	20	-
1956.	-	4	3	15	14	21	-
1957	-	1	406	124	4	18	3
1958	-	12	24	5	3	28	2
1959	-	6.	271	20	12	16	-
1960	-	14	11	13	1	16	-
1961	-	6	481	3	6	14	2
1962	-	9	8	14	2	18	4
1963	-	13	200	42	3	8	2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.

Disease.	No. of cases suspected.	Confirmed.	Removed to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever.	13.	13.	-
Whooping Cough	42	42.	1.
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	200	200	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	3	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-
Dysentery	9.	9.	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMON INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Age Groups.	Dysentery.		Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Measles.		Pneumonia.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.	1.					2.	3.	4.	1.	1.
1 - 2.	1.	2.	1.		5.	3.	21.	18.		
3 - 4			1.		4.	3.	29.	23.		
5 - 9			5.	6.	9.	13.	49.	49.		
10 - 14.	1.				1.			1.		
15 - 24.	1.					1.				
25 & over.	1.	1.				1.			1.	
Age Unknown.		1.					2.	1.		
Totals:-	5.	4.	7.	6.	19.	23.	104.	96.	2.	1.

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED AND DEATH OCCURRING DURING 1963.

Age.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Notified by Death.		Deaths.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
0 - 4 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 29 years.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30 - 34 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 39 years.	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
40 - 44 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 49 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50 - 54 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 59 years.	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
60 - 64 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years and over.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total All Ages:-	5	3	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-

SECTION C.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE YEAR.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford, deals with any bacteriological or bio-chemical investigation of disease found to be necessary.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE HOSPITALS.

Admission to these hospitals is arranged through the Public Health Department, or in emergency, on application by the General Practitioner direct to the hospital.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

Treatment can be obtained either at the Manor Hospital, Walsall, or the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

Admission is arranged by the General Practitioner direct with the hospital.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The patient's doctor arranges admission as necessary on medical grounds. If admission on any other grounds is thought desirable, application should be made to the Bilston Street Clinic, Darlaston, or the Bentley Ante-Natal Clinic, Churchill Road, Bentley.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

These are held at the Bilston Street Clinic Darlaston, on Monday and Thursday afternoons each week, and also at the Clinic, Churchill Road, Bentley, on Friday afternoons.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

A weekly session is held at the Bilston Street Clinic, Darlaston, on Wednesday mornings, and at the Clinic, Churchill Road, Bentley, on afternoons of the second and fourth Tuesday in each month.

HEALTH VISITORS.

The Health Visitors working in this district can usually be contacted at the Bilston Street Clinic Darlaston (James Bridge 2923) during the day, and they also attend the above clinics.

DOMESTIC HELP.

The service for this district is administered by the Area Medical Officer, 20 Hydes Road, Wednesbury - Telephone No: Wednesbury 0961/2. The service is provided where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity, or other household emergencies.

DISTRICT NURSES.

There are three district nurses practising in the district. When their services are required the family doctor will normally make the arrangement.

MIDWIFERY.

There are three domiciliary mid-wives employed by the Staffordshire County Council practising in this district. Below is a list of their names and addresses:-

Miss D. Butler, 3 Ames Road, Darlaston.
Telephone No: James Bridge 2557.

Mrs V.M. Carroll, "Glenroy" Walsall Rd.,
County Bridge, Willenhall.

Mrs E.M. Harris, 38 Victory Avenue, Darlaston.
Telephone No: James Bridge 2603.

Telephone No: Willenhall 65110.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

- (a) Vaccination against smallpox is carried out by the General Practitioner, and at the Infant Welfare Clinics by appointment.
- (b) Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus, is performed at the Infant Welfare Clinics each week, mostly on children between the ages of 9 and 12 months.
- (c) Immunisation against Polio myelitis.
All polio vaccine is available as required from the General Practitioner, and from the Infant Welfare Clinics. No appointment needed.

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SECTION D.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

During the year no action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS:

Food Poisoning:

No cases were reported to me during this period.

SECTION F.

HOUSING:

I am grateful to Mr. Knight, Housing Manager, for the following report:-

During 1963 the Council let 47 new units of accommodation, of these 28 were allocated to slum clearance and the remainder to general need. Units completed consisted of:

- 5 two bedroom houses.
- 12 three bedroom houses.
- 2 two bedroom flats.
- 28 two bedroom maisonettes.
- 47.

During 1963 there were 48 houses which became available for re-letting, of these 27 were allocated to slum clearance, the remainder to general need.

Housing Register:

- 2 applications from single persons.
- 130 applications from persons with two in family.
- 206 applications from persons with three in family.
- 85 applications from persons with four or more in family.
- 423.

SECTION G.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply:

The main part of Darlestone's water supply comes from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, and the remainder is supplied by the Wolverhampton Water Undertaking. Regular samples were taken during the year and found to be satisfactory in quality and quantity.

I am indebted to R.H. Taylor Esq., B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Engineer in Chief, South Staffordshire Waterworks Company for the following report:-

1. The water supply to the Urban District of Darlestone has been satisfactory in both quality and quantity.
2. The supply is obtained from groups of pumping stations in the neighbourhood of Cannock and Lichfield and from surface sources outside the Urban District.
3. Water from all sources is examined regularly both chemically and bacteriologically and, where treatment is practised, both before and after treatment.
4. During 1964, 107 of the 106 samples taken from two of the pumping stations, from which a large proportion of the water normally supplied is obtained, were free from all types of coliform bacteria.
5. Regular monthly samples are examined from the Waterman's house in Slater Street, Darlestone, where 12 out of 13 samples examined were free from coliform bacteria. These samples were also examined chemically and the average results for 1963 were as follows:-

pH	7.4			
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	121	parts	per	million.
Chlorides (Cl)	68	"	"	"
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	.042	"	"	"
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	.042	"	"	"
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	3.2	"	"	"
Oxygen absorbed (3 hr at 27°C)	.49	"	"	"
Temporary Hardness	115.	"	"	"
Permanent Hardness	74.	"	"	"
Total Hardness	189.	"	"	"
Iron (Fe)	.03	"	"	"
Manganese (Mn)	.01	"	"	"
Poisonous Metals (Cu & Pb)	nil	"	"	"
Free Cl	.02	"	"	"

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvency, the 13 samples from the Waterman's house being free from any detectable quantity of lead.

Chlorination is practised at most of the pumping stations, largely as a precautionary measure. Emergency chlorination is performed in cases of emergency such as burst mains etc., special staff and equipment are available for this purpose. New mains etc., are not brought into use until the water has been examined and proved satisfactory.

SEWAGE WORKS:

I am grateful to the Engineer and Surveyor for the following information:

"The capacity of the Darlaston Sewage Works is for a population of 21,000 producing 25 gallons of sewerage per head per day which is a total dry weather flow of 525,000 gallons per day.

Up to 3.14 times this average rate of flow receives the full settlement and filter treatment, and this covers peak sewage flows and light rainfall. A further 0.66 times this average rate of flow can be accepted for full settlement treatment before the operation of a weir discharging the surplus to storm tanks which have a total capacity of 160,200 gallons.

The general position did not patently improve during the year, although negotiations proceeded towards the diversion of flow from the James Bridge area to the Walsall County Borough Sewage Works (this scheme is now under construction). Liaison with Walsall County Borough enabled the tracing of trade effluent discharges to be effected. Significant progress is being made in this regard.

PUBLIC BATHS:

The building is of modern design and construction, by virtue of which it compares favourably with any in the Midlands.

Full provision is made for filtering, heating, and sterilising the 133,000 gallons of water contained in the swimming pool. The source of the water is the South Staffordshire Waterworks, and there is a four hour turnover of the full pool. Sterilisation is by break point chlorination, and in addition to chemical and bacteriological analysis carried out at the County and Public Health Laboratory, Stafford, there are frequent checks on the chlorination each day.

Slipper and shower baths are available, and afford a useful service, being regularly used by people whose accommodation lacks these facilities.

Bacteriological examination showed no coliform bacilli per 100 ml.

Chemical analyses were equally satisfactory.

Water sampling is carried out by this department at intervals during the year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1963.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year was again noteworthy mainly from the point of view of staff shortage and changeovers, and the necessity for working on priorities rather than on the routine work which is so important from a public health viewpoint. All urgent work was carried out without regard to the hours worked, and I feel that I must express my appreciation at the manner in which the excessive amount of regular overtime was undertaken by all the inspectors, despite the fact that this was thrust upon them at less than one months notice.

After a great deal of preliminary survey and propaganda work in order to put the idea across to the residents affected, the Council's first Smoke Control Order, covering 500 houses in the Catherine's Cross Ward was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for approval. In the industrial field there was no spectacular improvements in the conditions arising from the few remaining special problems of atmospheric pollution.

Slum clearance proceeded rather slowly, as did rehousings, but nevertheless at the end of the year there was a substantial number of unfit houses in the pipeline. Standards of overcrowding in houses in multiple occupation were approved, and some inspections of such property took place.

Among the less usual work was the task of taking precautionary steps to disinfect large areas of land which had been flooded with polluted water.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, the other Chief Officers, and to the staff of this Department. I must also mention my regret at the resignation of Dr. Heagney, the Medical Officer of Health, with whom I had worked in harmony and to advantage for many years. I feel sure that he is missed in every field of public health work with which he was concerned, both from a personal and professional point of view.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

T.H.Meredith.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936 and 1957.

(1) ACTION IN RESPECT OF INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES:

(a) Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made:-	No. of houses.
Catherines Cross, 50, 51	2.
Cremphill 63/64	1.
Bush Street, 48, 49	2.
Bell Street, 7, 8	2.
Blockall 40b	1.
Factory Street, 10, 11.	2.
Little Horton Street 1, 2,	2.
Walsall Road, 23, 25, 27, 29	4.
Total:-	16.

(b) Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made:-	No. of houses.
Church Street, 58, 59, 60	3.
Bush Street, 49 (varied to Demolition Order)	1.
r/o 4 Bilston Street	1.
Total:-	5.

(2) CLEARANCE AREA ACTION:-

(a) The following Clearance Areas were declared by the Council:-	No. of houses.
No. 76 - High St., Moxley 28, 29, "Somerset House" High St., Moxley	3.
No. 77 - Whitton Street, 18, 20, 22, 24	4.
No. 78 - Factory Street 3D, 5, 6, 7, and 8	5.
No. 79 - Tilley Street 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44	8.
No. 80 - Willenhall Street 20 and 22	2
Total:-	22.

(b) Clearance Orders Confirmed:	No. of houses.
The Darleston (Bell Street) Clearance Order 1963	3.
The Darleston (Poster Street) Clearance Order 1963	3.
Total:-	6.

(3) HOUSES WHICH BECAME VOID:

(a) Formal Action:

No. of houses.

Individual unfit houses. Demolition Orders

8.

Individual unfit houses. Closing Orders.

1.

Clearance Areas.

42.

(b) Houses on land adjoining Clearance Areas

-

DEMOLITION:

(1) Houses demolished. (Demolition Orders)

5.

(2) Houses demolished. (Clearance Areas.)

48.

(3) Houses Closed. (Closing Orders)

1.

(4) Houses Closed. (Undertakings under Section 16).

nil.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Houses inspected for housing defects (Public Health or Housing Acts)	97.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	97.
(2) Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit	43.
(3) Houses (exclusive of those in (2) above) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	54.

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Defective houses, rendered fit in consequence of Informal action by the Local Authority	46.
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9 & 10 of the Housing Acts 1936 and 1957.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	nil.
(11) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	18.
(11) Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	8.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil.
(111) Houses in which defects were remedied after legal proceeding	nil.

HOUSE BUILDING.

The following houses were erected by the Council:-

Street.	One Bedroom.	Two Bedrooms.	Three Bedrooms.
Laburnum Grove (including 2 flats)	-	6.	8.
Lime Grove	-	1.	4.
Linden Close, Farm Bridge Road (Maisonettes)	-	12.	-
Linden Close, Western Avenue (Maisonettes)	-	16	-
Total of each type:-	-	35.	12.
Total of all types	-		47.

In addition the following houses were built for sale by the Council:-
(including 10 - two bedrooms and 17 - three bedrooms) 27.

HOUSING VISITOR.

(For Council-owned property).

The general condition of Council houses was again found to be satisfactory, and the major efforts of the housing visitor were directed at the sub-standard family.

The lack of permanent improvement in the conditions of a few of these families is disheartening at times, and there is a temptation to resort to penal action, but the many factors which affect these families must be borne in mind. In particular it has been shown that the mental capabilities of either the man or wife can act as an almost insuperable drag on the potentialities of the remainder of the family.

Old people have again received regular visits and there is close liason with the domestic help organiser, the welfare officers, health visitors, and medical practitioners.

Total number of visits made to Council houses	4,991.
Number of visits to sub-standard Council houses	1,386.
Number of visits to old age pensioners living alone	666.

I M P R O V E M E N T G R A N T S .

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACTS, 1958 - 1959.

Discretionary Grants totalling £1,896:17s:0d were approved by the Council in respect of the following 10 houses:-

Gladstone Street 45, 47	2.
Addenbrooke Street 61, 63	2.
King Edward Street 17, 49	2.
St. John's Road 18	1.
Tilley Street 33	1.
Walsall Road 342	1.
Waverley Road 16	1.

Standard Grants totalling £141:9s:0d were approved by the Council in respect of the following 2 houses:-

Heath Road, "Gorsebrook Cottage"	1.
Wiley Avenue 35	1.

Work was completed at the following 14 houses:-

Gladstone Street 45, 47	2.
Heath Road, "Gorsebrook Cottage"	1.
High Street 31b	1.
King Edward Street 17, 49, 65	3.
Richards Street 33, 34	2.
St. John's Road 18, 20, 21	3.
Station Street 80	1.
Waverley Road 16	1.

RENT ACT, 1957.

There were no applications for certificates of disrepair, or for cancellation of certificates.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES:

Items in respect of which informal notices were served	1132.
Items in respect of which abatement notices were served ...	23.
Items which were complied with (including drain stoppages)	1063.

MORTUARY:

The mortuary is situated at the rear of the Town Hall, and contains a three body chilled cabinet, and facilities for post mortem examinations.

During the year 26 bodies were received into the mortuary, and a post mortem examination was carried out in each case.

Minor improvements and repairs were carried out during the year, including the provision of new instruments.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

One license to station a caravan was issued on a temporary basis in respect of church premises.

Itinerant caravans are actively discouraged, and in one case considerable quantities of earth were tipped as barriers. Before completion of this work an attempt was made to dig a way through by a large party of caravans.

This is a problem only properly appreciated by residents in the neighbourhood of such encampments, which are exclusively used by scrap dealers intent on carrying on a business with the highest return for the lowest outlay, and without the vexation of maintaining records under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act or any other enactment. There is the closest co-operation from the police in dealing with this problem.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION:

Visits to infectious disease cases (including food poisoning)	8.
Premises disinfected after infectious disease	1.
Terminal disinfection following deaths from tuberculosis	nil.
Premises disinfested in connection with verminous conditions (e.g. fleas and bugs)	nil.
Premises disinfested (e.g. ants, cockroaches etc).	43.
Destruction of bedding	95.

During serious flooding in the Rough Hay area caused by the overflowing of a badly polluted stream, the margins of the flooding, and the area uncovered when the water receded were treated with a combination of disinfectant and insecticidal powder, as a precaution against possible infection and infestation.

REFUSE COLLECTION:

The Engineer and Surveyor has supplied the following information:

REFUSE COLLECTION:

1963.	Refuse.	Waste Paper Salvage.					
	tons.	T.	c.	qr.	£.	s.	d.
January.	780.	12.	1.	0.	103.	2.	5.
February.	691.	5.	10.	2.	52.	9.	9.
March.	806.	* 25.	19.	3.	210.	9.	10.
April.	890.	-	-	-	-	-	-
May.	805.	-	-	-	-	-	-
June.	723.	-	-	-	-	-	-
July.	795.	-	-	-	-	-	-
August.	674.	-	-	-	-	-	-
September.	683.	-	-	-	-	-	-
October.	884.	-	-	-	-	-	-
November.	792.	-	-	-	-	-	-
December.	870.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals :-	9,393.	43.	11.	1.	366.	2.	0.

* Salvage collections discontinued on 31st March 1963.

MEAT AND FOODS.

The number of animals slaughtered was maintained at a level considerably in excess of the town's requirements, and the existing strain on the staff of inspectors was further increased by the introduction of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 which came into effect on the 1st October 1963.

These regulations were introduced to ensure that 100% meat inspection is carried out to a standard set by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods. Local Authorities are obliged to provide the service and are allowed to levy a charge on the slaughterer up to a pre set maximum. Unfortunately these charges do not cover the costs involved, owing to the times and system of slaughtering operated in Darlaston. Whilst 100% meat inspection is imperative, the responsibility has been to some extent unfairly placed on local authorities, in that no control has been placed on days or hours of slaughter. In order to implement the regulations it is now necessary on occasions for an inspector to be at the slaughterhouse from 7.30 a.m. to as late as 7.30 p.m. During the first three months each inspector averaged 30 hours overtime per month in order to maintain this service.

Number of slaughterhouses licensed	....	2.
Number of slaughtermen licensed	....	14.

UNFIT FOOD.

	lbs.	ozs.
Unfit food other than meat inspected at the slaughterhouses	169.	0.

This food mainly comprises the larger tins of cooked meats, and is surrendered voluntarily against a certificate of unfitness.

DISPOSAL OF UNFIT FOOD.

Tinned goods which are not suitable for disposal by burning are transported to the Town Hall yard where a workman smashes the tins to render the contents unusable. The resultant articles are then conveyed to the Council's controlled tip where they are deposited at the base of the working face and the days refuse deposited on top and consolidated to ensure there is no nuisance from fly breeding or smells and no opportunity given for rats to feed on this food.

Items suitable for burning are destroyed in the Council's incinerator. The bulk of the unfit meat from the slaughterhouse is stained with special green dye before removal to a licensed processing factory in an adjoining authority. Every precaution is taken to regulate the handling of unfit food to ensure that it is not diverted from the proper channels. There exists a very high degree of co-operation between the traders in the town and the staff of the Health Department, which ensures adequate disposal of any unfit food.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED FOR SALE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

Carcases and Offal inspected and found unfit in whole or in part.

	Cattle (excluding Cows.)	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.	Goats.
Number killed.	1837.	143.	786.	17,824.	5,798	-	14.
Number inspected.	1837.	143.	786.	17,824.	5,798	-	14.
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERI:							
Whole carcasses condemned.	1.	-	3.	63.	5.	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	438.	17.	2.	3,311.	1,128.	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci.	23.8%	11.8%	0.6%	18.9%	19.5%	-	-
TUBERCULOSIS:							
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	2.	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	173.	-	-
Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	3.0%	-	-
Cysticercosis:							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	28.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	28.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage affected	1.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-

The weight of meat found unfit in connection with the above table was 11 tons 11 cwt 2 qrs 12 lbs.
 The weight of meat rendered fit after refrigeration - 9 tons 7 cwt 2 qrs.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

(1) Number of Food Premises in the Area.

	No. of premises.	No. of visits.
Civic Restaurant	1.	14.
Restaurants	5.	14.
Bakehouses	1.	9.
Fried Fish Shops	16.	27.
Butchers	30.	114.
Bacon Factories	1.	54.
Grocers	123.	67.
Green Grocers	22.	29.
Wet Fish Shops	7.	19.
Slaughterhouses	2.	709.
Licensed premises	62.	23.
Factory Canteens	18.	24.

(II) NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16,
of the FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

	No. of premises.	No. of visits.
Ice Cream Retailers	81.	89.
Manufacturers of Preserved Foods	8.	60.

(III) FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

The following informal notices were served under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955:

	Served:	Complied with:
Greengrocers.	1.	1.
Grocers.	-	1.
<u>Regulations:</u>		
Insanitary Premises	-	1.
Equipment dirty or unsuitable	1	1.
Food not adequately protected	1.	1.
Use of I.V.S. as Food Room.	-	1.
Unsatisfactory or no hot water	1.	1.
Absence of soap, towel and nailbrush	1.	1.
Absence of first aid outfit	1.	1.
Absence of clothes locker	1.	1.
Absence of washing up sink.	1.	1.
Inadequate lighting.	-	1.
<u>Food Room:</u>		
In need of repair.	1.	1.
Not vermin proof	-	1.
Accumulation.	1.	1.

M I L K S U P P L Y .

The whole of the milk supply in the district is designated approximately 75% of the milk being sterilised.

S A M P L I N G .

Dr. Ramage, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly supplied the following information regarding samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and details of samples of milk taken to ascertain cleanliness and efficient pasteurisation.

List of samples taken during the year 1963:

MILK.

T.T. (Pasteurised)	9.
Pasteurised	3.
Sterilised	6.
Number of samples genuine	18.
Number of samples adulterated ..	nil.

GENERAL FOODS.

Number of samples taken ...	56.
Number of samples genuine .	56.

CLASSIFICATION OF GENERAL FOODS.

Rusk (3 samples), Force meat, Creamed Sago Milk Pudding, Pease Pudding, Beef Steak and Gravy, Garden Peas, Apricot Jam, Pork Sausage with preservative (5 samples), Black Pudding, Glucose Barley Sugars, Old fashioned Butter drops, Eclairs, Loganberries, Raspberry Jam, Flour, Ginger Nuts, Apple Jelly, Processed Peas, Margarine, Blackcurrant Jam, Sponge with Jam and Ice Cream, Danish Ham in Slices, Custard Powder, Stewed Steak 95% Beef, Salmon, Jaffa Orange Juice, Scotch Whisky, Brawn, Honey Blended Imported, Lard, Buttered Toast, Malt Vinegar, Old Fashioned Humbugs, Minced meat, Starch Reduced Food, Bakewell Tart Mixture, T.T. Pasteurised Milk (2 samples), Condensed Full Cream Milk, Lemon Glazed Doughnuts, Butter, Buttersnap, Vegetable Salad in Mayonnaise, Cheese Flaps in Tomato Sauce, Full Cream Evaporated Milk, Baking Powder, Tongue, Old Fashioned Bullseyes, Vanilla Flavouring, Corned Beef.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES TAKEN BY STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL DURING 1963.

	No. of Samples.	Phosphatase Test.		Turbidity Test.		Methylene Blue Test.	
		Pass.	Fail.	Pass.	Fail.	Pass.	Fail.
T.T.Pasteurised.	15.	15.	-	-	-	15.	-
Pasteurised.	8.	8.	-	-	-	8	-
Sterilised.	12.	-	-	12	-	-	-
T.T.Channel Isles Pasteurised.	10.	10.	-	-	-	10.	-
Totals:-	45.	33.	-	12.	-	33.	-

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959 - (PART 1) .

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors. .

PREMISES. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of		
		Inspections. (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1.	-	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	79.	109	1.	-
(111) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.)	7.	7.	-	-
TOTALS:-	87.	116.	1.	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which Prosecutions instituted. (6)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	To H.M. Inspector. (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2).	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3).	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1.	1.	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	1.	1.	-	-	-

PETROLEUM ACTS.

Number of Licences issued to store Petrol or Petroleum Spirit	....	41.
Number of gallons of Petroleum or Petroleum Spirit stored	....	84,482 gallons.
Number of Licences issued to store Carbide of Calcium	....	3.
Amount of Carbide of Calcium stored	....	104 tons.
Income from Licences	....	£39:10s:0d

RODENT CONTROL.Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The following treatments have been undertaken during the year:-

Business premises (factories, shops etc)	....	73.
Private Dwelling houses	....	202.
Estimated Kill (Rats)	....	689.
Estimated Kill (Mice)	....	130.

CINEMAS.

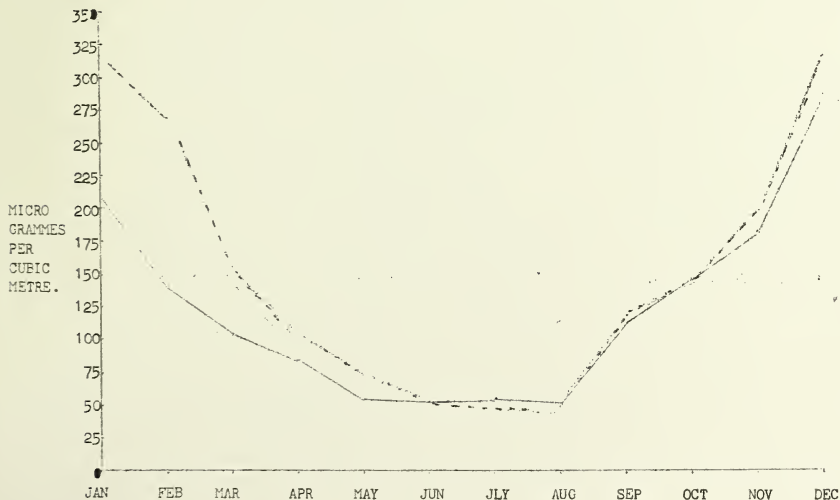
Annual inspection for licensing purposes was carried out at the local cinema. Further inspections were carried out in conjunction with the County Fire Prevention Officer, during afternoon and evening performances.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION
CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE.

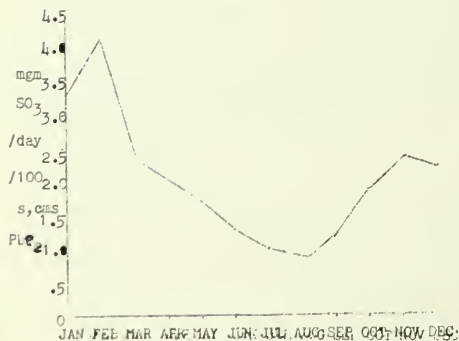
SMOKE FILTER.

Microgrammes per cubic metre.

	Town Hall.			Bentley.		
	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.	Highest.	Lowest.
January.	212.	424.	60.	315.	952.	52.
February.	140.	328.	40.	266.	648.	88.
March.	105.	280.	24.	154.	432.	76.
April.	86.	224.	36.	104.	232.	44.
May.	56.	108.	32.	73.	128.	48.
June.	52.	104.	24.	52.	120.	1.6
July.	56.	132.	16.	55.	100.	24.
August.	52.	104.	24.	51.	96.	20.
September.	113.	240.	32.	120.	224.	44.
October.	146.	388.	84.	148.	220.	84.
November.	181.	372.	68.	195.	508.	80.
December.	284.	824.	116.	313.	824.	60.



Estimation of Sulphur Lead Peroxide.		DEPOSITED MATTER PER MONTH.			
Mg. SO ₃ /day per 100 sq. cms. PbO ₂ .	Ins. Rain.	Total Undissolved Matter. Tons. Sq. Mile.	Total Dissolved Matter. Tons. Sq. Mile.	Total Solids. Tons. Sq. Mile.	
Sewage Works.		Sewage Works.			
January.	3.38	0.32	3.70	7.24	10.94
February	4.18	0.51	4.90	4.00	8.90
March	2.37	2.36	15.20	11.04	26.24
April	-	2.17	5.40	8.14	13.54
May.	1.71	1.54	9.44	4.20	13.64
June.	1.42	2.84	11.54	8.08	19.62
July	1.17	1.54	8.17	4.80	12.97
August.	0.96	2.68	10.84	6.60	17.44
September.	1.32	0.99	9.33	5.03	14.36
October.	1.88	1.89	9.24	7.64	16.88
November	2.47	3.82	7.84	12.85	20.69
December	2.31	0.39	6.61	5.77	12.38



" SULPHUR "



" SOLIDS "

